



JERRY SANDERS  
MAYOR

RECEIVED  
JUL 19 2007

July 19, 2007

Honorable Janis Sammartino  
Presiding Judge  
San Diego County Superior Court  
Hall of Justice  
330 West Broadway, Suite 477  
San Diego, CA 92101-3830

RECEIVED  
JUL 19 2007  
SAN DIEGO  
COUNTY GRAND JURY

Dear Judge Sammartino:

Subject: 2006-2007 Grand Jury Report entitled "Qualcomm Stadium Revisited – Going, Going, Gone from the Q"

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933.05(a), (b), and (c), the City of San Diego provides the following responses to the findings and recommendations in the above-entitled Grand Jury Report.

**Finding 1: This practice (of using sign-in sheets) renders the record almost useless in determining who is actually using the \$92 per game tickets (as listed for Press Level tickets on the City website).**

**Partially Disagree.** City staff revised the sign-in sheet prior to the 2006 football season to include ticket assignments by credential holder. The revised version of the sign-in sheet requires attendees to sign their name next to the ticket number which corresponds to the ticket numbers given to the credential holders. This new information can be used to provide an accurate accounting of ticket usage per event and to ensure compliance with the Council Policy.

**Finding 2: Some City Council Members have abused the perquisite (sic) of two free tickets and a reserved parking space for each game by inviting guests, such as immediate family members or relatives, who do not meet the criteria of City Council Policy 700-22.**

**Partially Disagree.** This question should be directed to the City Council.

**Finding 3: Tickets currently provided without charge to City Council Members (a total of 18 tickets per game) could be sold for their \$92 face value to raise \$1,656 per game, plus \$180 for nine reserved parking spaces at \$20 each for a total of \$1,836 times eight games for a grand total of \$14,688 per regular season home schedule.**

**Playoff games would add to this total at whatever face value is placed on the tickets and the parking. The six SDSU games were not included in this computation.**

**Partially Disagree.** There are ten games in a season ticket package for the Chargers (two preseason games and eight regular season games). The 2007 season ticket price for the suite Press 6A is \$81. The retail value of the parking space is \$40 per game. Therefore, the total value of the tickets and parking for the Council Members is \$18,180. This calculation does not include the retail value for SDSU games or other stadium events such as Monster Jam or the Holiday Bowl.

The tickets can not be sold until City Council Policy 700-22 is amended to allow for the sale of the credential holder's tickets.

**Finding 4: No other City of San Diego Board or Commission volunteers receive this type of perquisite (two free tickets and free parking for each football event at the stadium) for their service. The basic "perk" is to have validated parking in the City Concourse garage by the staff member assigned to the Board or Commission, on which the volunteer serves.**

**Agree.**

**Finding 5: The major tenant of Qualcomm Stadium has not had a representative present at meetings for more than one year, per the minutes of the QSAB. Thus, it is almost impossible for interaction to occur between the Chargers and the QSAB at the monthly meetings.**

**Agree.** The Chargers representative has not attended the Qualcomm Stadium Advisory Board meetings in a year and a half. They have a standing invitation to participate in the meetings and they have remained on the agenda.

**Finding 6: If the free tickets and parking provided to the Qualcomm Stadium Advisory Board Members for only San Diego Chargers games, as a perquisite for their volunteer service, were sold at fair market value, the total raised would be \$14,688. These funds could be utilized for sports-related youth programs.**

**Partially Disagree.** There are ten games in a season ticket package for the Chargers (two preseason games and eight regular season games). The 2007 season ticket price for the suite Press 6A is \$81. The retail value of the parking space is \$40 per game. Therefore, the total value of the tickets and parking for the QSAB is \$18,180. This calculation does not include the retail value for SDSU games or other stadium events such as Monster Jam or the Holiday Bowl.

These tickets can not be sold until the City Council Policy 700-22 is amended to allow the sale of credential holder's tickets.

**Recommendation 07-70: Direct the Qualcomm Stadium General Manager to redesign the Sign-In Sheet to include a space to list the Affiliation of each guest in**

**City Box 6-A. Each guest must be required to clearly print his/her name and an affiliation as part of the public record for each stadium event.**

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The sign-in sheet was changed prior to the 2006 football season to include the ticket distribution by credential holder. It was amended to include a column for affiliation as well. This change was done so that an accurate accounting of ticket usage could be made. In the past, tickets numbers were not assigned to credential holders and it was difficult to identify who used the tickets.

To strengthen accountability, effective August 12, 2007, we will instruct that a notice be distributed with every two tickets given to all credential holders advising them that they must require any ticket holder to sign the sign-in sheet legibly and properly. That same notice will be posted inside the City Suite near the sign-in area.

A notice explaining how an attendee identifies their organization, company or community affiliation will be posted next to the sign-in area.

The Stadium Manager has been instructed to ensure that all guests sign-in legibly and properly and to report any sign-in sheet non-compliance to the appropriate credential holder.

**Recommendation 07-71: Direct the City Auditor or City Treasurer to conduct an annual audit of the City Box at Qualcomm Stadium to determine if it is being utilized properly and by persons who meet the criteria of updated City Council Policy 700-22 and recoup reimbursement of the fair market value of the tickets inappropriately used.**

Response: This recommendation can not be implemented as stated. To follow the spirit of the recommendation the Qualcomm Stadium General Manager will provide a monthly non-compliance report. The report will be forwarded to the following entities: Council President or designee on behalf of the entire City Council; Mayor or designee on behalf of the Mayor, Stadium Manager and Qualcomm Stadium Advisory Board; and City Attorney or designee on behalf of the City Attorney. Each entity will develop its own procedures to comply with Council Policy 700-22. Each entity will publish its lists of ticket users on a quarterly basis. Lastly, the City does not currently have the grounds under Council Policy 700-22 to establish a mechanism to collect fees for improper use of tickets.

**Recommendation 07-78: Amend City Council Policy 700-22 to remove Qualcomm Stadium Advisory Board members from the list of persons who receive free tickets and reserved parking for each Chargers and SDSU football game at Qualcomm Stadium.**

Response: This recommendation needs to be addressed by City Council.

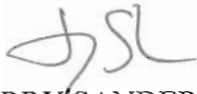
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**Recommendation 07-79: Sell the ticket now provided to QSAB members for Chargers games, which alone could raise as much as \$14,688 including reserved parking, for an eight-game Chargers regular season, with the sale of SDSU tickets adding to this total.**

Response: This recommendation cannot be implemented because the current Council Policy 700-22 lists the Qualcomm Stadium Advisory Board members as credential holders. All credential holders are allocated a certain number of tickets per game according to Council Policy 700-22.

Thank you for your interest in Qualcomm Stadium. Please contact Erik Stover at (619) 641-3102 or at [ESTover@sanidiego.gov](mailto:ESTover@sanidiego.gov), if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'JSL' or 'Jerry Sanders', written in a cursive style.

JERRY SANDERS  
Mayor

cc: San Diego County Grand Jury  
City Council  
Chief Operating Officer  
Department Director  
Citizens Assistance Manager  
City Clerk